

AGENDA ITEM: Special Services Program - Literacy

ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD AT THIS MEETING:

1. Authorization to Allocate 2002/03 California Library Literacy Service Funds.
2. Authorization to Allocate 2002/03 Families For Literacy Funds.

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD: I

move that the Library of California Board authorize its Chief Executive Officer to allocate, as soon as the state budget makes them available, the 2002/03 California Library Literacy Service Act funds to local programs in accordance with the provisions of Section 18733.2 of the Education Code of California.

RECOMMENDED MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE BOARD: I

move that the Library of California Board authorize its Chief Executive Officer to allocate, as soon as the state budget makes them available, the 2002/03 California Library Services Act Families for Literacy funds to an estimated 80 library jurisdictions in accordance with the provisions of Education Code Section 18735 to local participants based upon the criteria set forth in the Families for Literacy application materials and prior performance in the Program, where applicable.

1. Authorization to Allocate 2002/03 CLC Funds.

BACKGROUND:

The Preliminary 2002/03 CLSA Local Assistance Budget as adopted by the State Board last August contains an allocation of \$4.090 million for the support of California Library Literacy Service (CLLS) as defined in Statute (Chapter 1095, Statutes of 1992). This amount, which is the amount in the governor's proposed budget, is sufficient to support all 14 existing 2nd through 5th year CLLS programs at the levels defined in statute. The current allocation would provide for the initiation of CLLS services in an estimated 4 additional library jurisdictions, but the State to local matching of financial resources would drop to an estimated \$1 to \$6.92 ratio (14.7%) for local programs in their 6th and subsequent years of operation.

The Governor's proposed budget for 2002/03, as introduced, does not include an

augmentation as requested through a Budget Change Proposal submitted in accordance with the Board's action at its August 2001 meeting.

Because of the timing of the State budget process, the final amount of the 2002/03 CLLS appropriation will not be known until late June at the earliest. However, existing CLLS programs will begin to incur expenses July 1, 2002. For that reason staff annually seeks Board authorization early in the year for the Chief Executive Officer to award funds to participants immediately following the completion of the State budget process.

2. Authorization to Allocate 2002/03 Families for Literacy Funds.

BACKGROUND:

The Preliminary 2002/03 CLSA Local Assistance Budget as adopted by the State Board last August contains an allocation of \$1,384,000 for the support of Families for Literacy programs as defined in Statute (Chapter 1359, Statutes of 1987).

Application forms and instructions for the 2002/03 Families for Literacy Program will be mailed to all eligible applicants in March. As with the CLLS it is desirable to award funds to successful applicants immediately following the completion of the State budget process. The Families for Literacy Program is a competitive grant program. Early indications are that between 79-85 public libraries plan to apply for FFL funds for 2002/03.

GENERAL OVERALL PROGRAM UPDATES:

CURRENT STATUS: CLSA Special Services Program activities are organized in two major components: 1) activities undertaken to implement State Board priorities for emphasizing services to the underserved in other CLSA Programs (e.g., System Reference); and, 2) services supported with funds allocated to the CLSA Special Services Program, currently the library-centered adult literacy services known as the California Library Literacy Service (CLLS), and the Families for Literacy Program (FFL). These programs together are known as the California Literacy Campaign (CLC).

In accordance with State Board action at its February 2001 meeting, the Chief Executive Officer has awarded a total of \$2,500,600 in State matching funds to 87 jurisdictions for programs in their sixth and subsequent year of the CLLS. A list of the jurisdictions, amounts of local public and private funds certified, and the amounts of State matching funds for which they received is provided as Exhibit A. A total of \$15,359,626 in local public and private funds was raised by these libraries (Exhibit B). This resulted in a State to local dollar match for the 2001/02 fiscal year of \$1 of State funds to \$6.13 of local funds. Exhibit C displays the sources of local public and private funds as certified by the applicants.

Included as Exhibit D is the funding history of the California Library Literacy Service, by program. Exhibit E contains the funding history for the Families for Literacy programs.

CLLS Planning

Twenty-seven libraries that have never received CLLS funds responded to a request for planning information for the CLC (see Exhibit F). They responded as follows:

Does the library have an adult literacy program?

Yes: 5 No: 22 Total: 27

Would you be interested in attending an information forum on applying for CLSA literacy funds?

Yes: 5 No: 22 Total: 27

When would you consider applying for CLSA literacy funds?

2002/03: 4 2003/04: 4 In the Future: 14

Not interested: 6 Total: 27

New Adult & Family Literacy Programs or Staff Orientation: Day long orientations for both new programs and new staff in existing programs was provided by CSL literacy staff. Approximately 25 people attended the December 4 meeting held in Sacramento at the State Library and 35 people attended the December 6 meeting held at the Corona Public Library. The agenda included: A Brief History of the California Literacy Campaign; Successes and Issues in Managing California Library Literacy Programs; How to Operate a Successful Literacy Program; and Where to Find On-going Assistance.

Prop 10 LLABS Program: All of the 11 LLABS vehicles (Library, Literacy and Books Services) have now been delivered to their local libraries, and most are in operation. A few have final driver training taking place within the next few weeks, and then all of the vehicles will be on the road.

LLABS are visiting California's low-income housing developments, migrant camps, local daycare centers, Head Start programs, recreation centers, family resource centers and community health clinics. Their colorful and attractive presence serves as a magnet for families and children. Their goal is to reach low literacy/low income, often geographically and/or socially isolated families and caregivers with children under age 5, to provide a variety of vital family services with an emphasis on literacy

and health.

Families For Literacy:

State Conferences

The Families For Literacy (FFL) Program will participate at two upcoming state conferences. Family literacy coordinators from several programs will participate in panel presentations and workshops at the California Children & Families Commission Conference called the Terrific Threes-Families, Communities, & Commissions Working Together on March 20-22, 2002 in San Diego. FFL programs will also participate at the Ninth Annual California Family Literacy Conference called Making a Difference: Strength Through Partnerships on March 11-12, 2002 in Santa Clara.

Outcome Measures Training

FFL coordinators and staff will participate in outcome measures training at upcoming regional meetings in March and April. The training is part of an effort to help library literacy staff better evaluate and determine if they have achieved program goals. The training will help programs move from traditional evaluation to outcomes measurement. Introduction of the new outcomes-based Families For Literacy grant application will be included in the training. The grant application includes new concepts and vocabulary to help programs achieve and measure results.

Family Literacy Workshop Using Learner-Centered Teaching

Gail Weinstein, author and teacher educator at San Francisco State University presented a family literacy workshop for Southern California Families For Literacy Programs and California Literacy, Inc., programs. Participants explored how to use student stories to help learners master the mechanics of language. Staff also learned how to create communities of teachers and tutors who share with one another learner narratives, lessons, and experiences in the challenging work of learner-centered teaching. Ms. Weinstein is the author of *Stories to Tell Our Children*. She will present a session on learner-centered teaching at the National Center For Family Literacy Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico in March.

RELATED ISSUES TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD IN THE FUTURE:

1. 2002/03 plans for implementing the adult and family literacy programs.
2. When the Governor issued an Executive Order to state agencies calling for expenditure reductions in light of the budget situation, the Literacy Team began working with the CLC evaluation and strategic planning contractor to achieve the most important objectives of the contract within a more limited scope of work and budget in an effort to comply with the Governor's request. The data collection and analysis that has been developed to support our strategic planning efforts is about to be finalized, and we will look forward to bringing it to the Literacy Committee in

May, together with our work on strategic planning.

Relevant Committee: Literacy

Staff Liaisons: Carole Talan, Carla Lehn, Cinda Costales